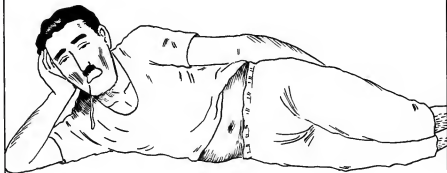
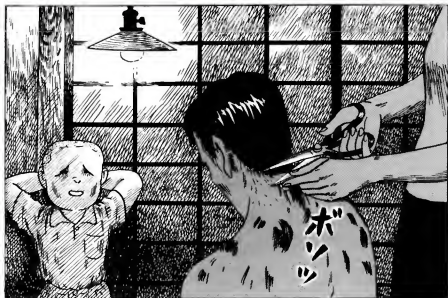


第二話

無能の人

*CHAPTER 2:
A WORTHLESS
PERSON*

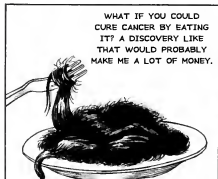




WHAT A WASTE IT IS TO HAVE THIS ENDLESS SUPPLY OF SOMETHING AND THEN JUST THROW IT ALL AWAY.



EVERY TIME I HAVE MY HAIR CUT, I ALWAYS THINK...



WHAT IF YOU COULD CURE CANCER BY EATING IT? A DISCOVERY LIKE THAT WOULD PROBABLY MAKE ME A LOT OF MONEY.



I WONDER IF THERE ISN'T SOME WAY WE COULD USE IT TO BETTER ALL OF MANKIND.

IT'S KIND OF
LIKE WHEN I
TAKE WALKS OUT
BY THE RIVER,
I ALWAYS
THINK...



THAT'S
WHY I'M
NEVER
ABLE TO
THROW
ANY OF
IT AWAY.



IF NOT
THAT,
THERE
HAS TO
BE SOME
WAY WE
COULD
USE
IT.

IF ONLY I COULD
MAKE MONEY
OFF OF ALL
THESE ROCKS
SOMEHOW.



"IF ONLY THERE
WAS SOME WAY...",
OVER AND OVER.

JUST,



I CAN
NEVER
COME UP
WITH
ANYTHING.



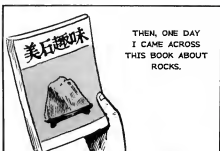
BUT
POVERTY
DULLS
THE WIT.



I THOUGHT
I SHOULD
AT LEAST
KEEP A
SMALL
COLLECTION
IF I EVER
DO HAPPEN
TO HIT
UPON
ANYTHING.



THAT WAS
THE FIRST
TIME I REALIZED.

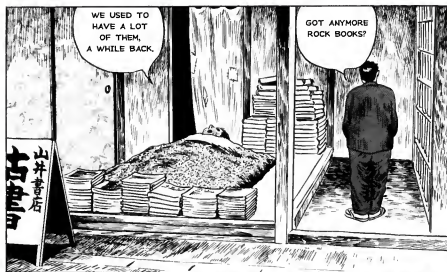


THEN, ONE DAY
I CAME ACROSS
THIS BOOK ABOUT
ROCKS.



THERE ARE
PEOPLE WHO
PAY MONEY
FOR ROCKS.
HOW IS
THAT
POSSIBLE?

THERE ARE
PEOPLE OUT
THERE THAT
THINK ROCKS
ARE LIKE ART.





I THINK
THERE'S
ONE BOOK
OVER THERE.
LOOK AT
IT.



I DON'T
KNOW.
FORGOT.

THE MOST
COMMON SPOTS
TO FIND THEM
ARE AT RIVERS.

ROCK
COLLECTORS
SEARCH FOR
THEIR ROCKS
ALL ACROSS
JAPAN.



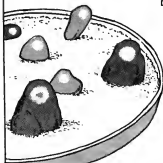
DIFFERENT
LOCATIONS
WILL
PRODUCE
ALL
DIFFERENT
KINDS
OF ROCKS.



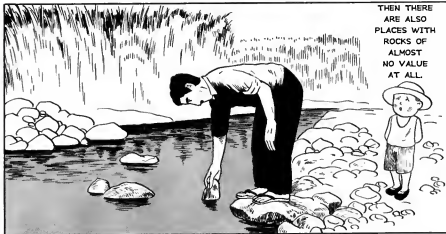
SOME PLACES
ARE KNOWN
TO PRODUCE
ROCKS OF VERY
HIGH QUALITY.



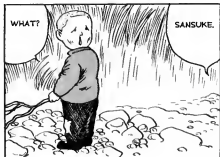
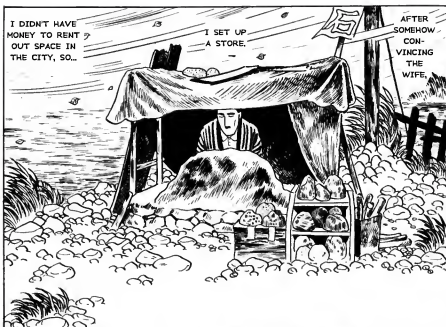
DIFFERENT
PATTERNS,
DIFFERENT
SHAPES.

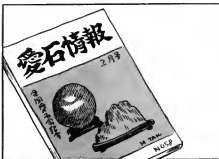
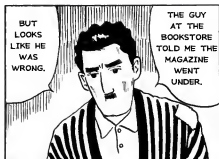


THEN THERE
ARE ALSO
PLACES WITH
ROCKS OF
ALMOST
NO VALUE
AT ALL.











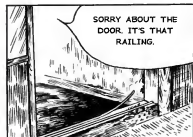
I FOUND
THEIR OFFICE
IN A RUN
DOWN BACK
ALLEY IN
YOYOGI.



HELLO.
I'M SUKESAN
SUKEGAWA.

INSTEAD,
THE DOOR
ALMOST
FELL ON ME
WHEN I TRIED
TO OPEN IT.

TO BE
HONEST,
I WAS IMAG-
INING A TALL
BUILDING
WITH GLASS
WINDOWS.

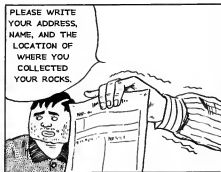


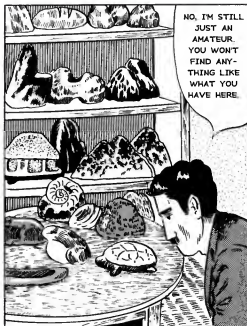
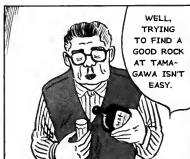
SORRY ABOUT THE
DOOR. IT'S THAT
RAILING.



美石狂会







ORIGINATED
IN CHINA,
THEN CAME
OVER
HERE.



IT ALL STARTED
AROUND THE
FOURTEENTH
CENTURY.

ISHIGUMO
STARTED
GIVING
A LECTURE
ABOUT HOW
ROCKS CAME
TO BE TREATED
AS ART.

STONES THAT WERE APPRECIATED BY
THEMSELVES BECAME CALLED
VIEWING STONES.



THESE BECAME KNOWN
AS BONSAI STONES.



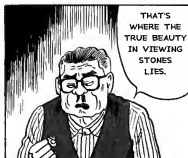
BY THE EDO PERIOD,
PEOPLE HAD BEGUN
TO ARRANGE A FEW
STONES HERE AND
THERE TO COMPLIMENT
DIFFERENT BONSAI
GARDENS THEY WOULD
MAKE.

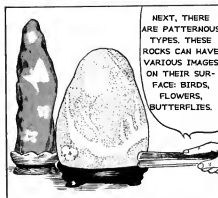
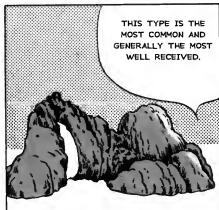


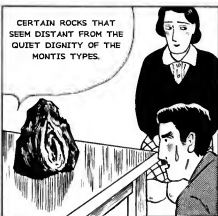
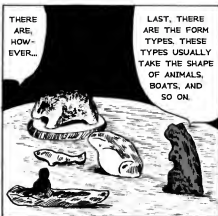
VIEWING STONES,
HOWEVER, MUST
CREATE SCENERY
ENTIRELY BY
THEMSELVES.



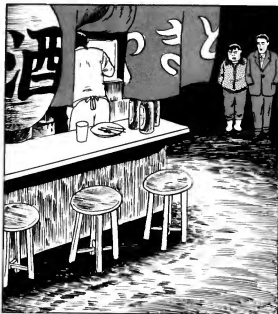
BONSAI STONES HAVE
A RELATIVELY SMALL
ROLE TO FULFILL
IN RECREATING
A LANDSCAPE.



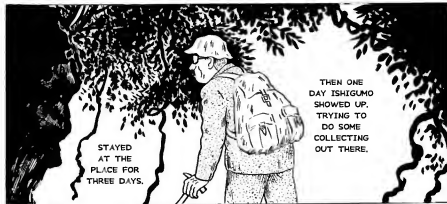


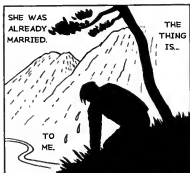




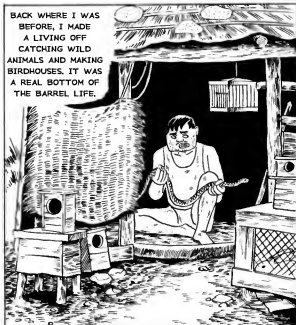








BACK WHERE I WAS
BEFORE, I MADE
A LIVING OFF
CATCHING WILD
ANIMALS AND MAKING
BIRDBOUSES. IT WAS
A REAL BOTTOM OF
THE BARREL LIFE.





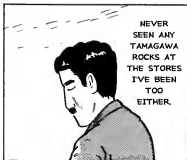
WONDER HOW
MUCH I'LL MAKE.
NEED TO REMEMBER
TEN PERCENT
OF THE SALE
GOES TO
THEM.



STILL ONE
MONTH UNTIL
THE AUCTION.



NEVER
SEEN ANY
TAMAGAWA
ROCKS AT
THE STORES
I'VE BEEN
TOO
EITHER.

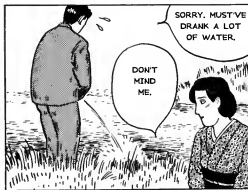
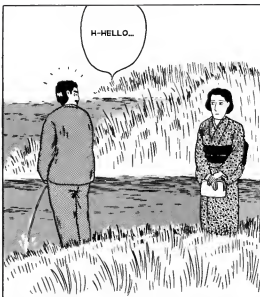


THAT GUIDE I BOUGHT
DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING
ABOUT TAMAGAWA.
MIGHT NOT COME UP
AT THESE AUCTIONS
MUCH.

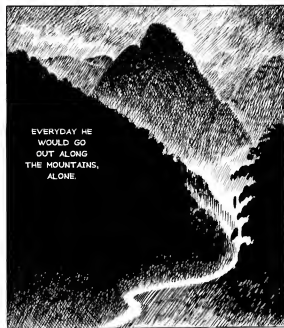


MUST BE
PLAIN.
LIKE
ME.





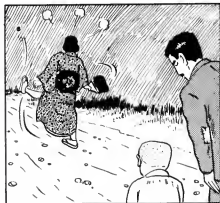
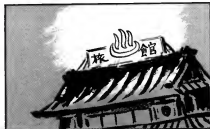






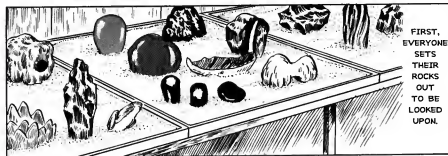
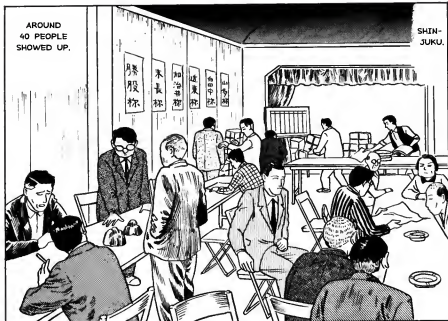
*MAYBE THIS IS A JAPANESE TERM, BUT JUST A PLACE TO GO TO HAVE SEX (YOU BRING THE GIRL...)





AROUND
40 PEOPLE
SHOWED UP.

SHIN-
JUKU.

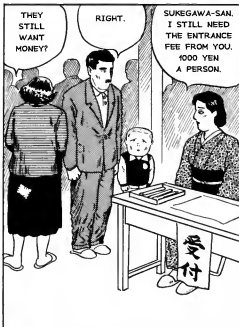


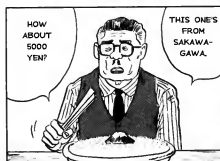
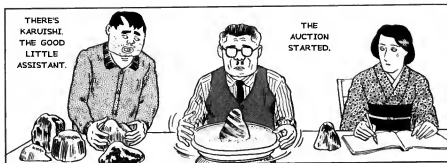
FIRST,
EVERYONE
SETS
THEIR
ROCKS
OUT
TO BE
LOOKED
UPON.



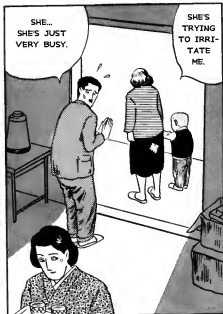
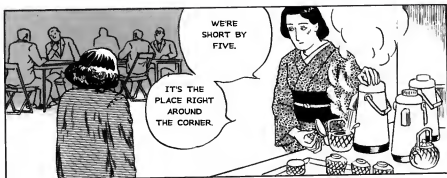
WHICH WE
MANAGED,
SOMEHOW,

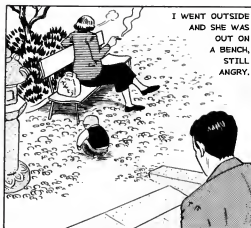
THE
TABLE
SPACE
COSTS
10,000
YEN.











BAD LUCK

